Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
 USIA-15 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DLOS-06 SAL-01 AF-08
 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 /134 R

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TO AMEMBASSY KABUL
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, EGEN, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN AT 31ST UNGA -- RESOLUTIONS ON LANDLOCKED LDCS

REF: KABUL 77

- 1. THE 31ST GA ADOPTED TWO RESOLUTIONS ON LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BOTH SPONSORED BY AFGHANISTAN AND VARIOUS OTHER LANDLOCKED LDCS.
- 2. ONE, CONCERNING "SPECIFIC ACTION IN FAVOR OF LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES," REQUESTED THE UNSYG IN CONSULTATION WITH THE UNCTAD SYG AND OTHERS TO FIND WAYS OF IMPROVING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE LANDLOCKED LDCS; CALLED ON MEMBER STATES, UN ORGANS, IFIS, ETC. TO GIVE SPECIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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ATTENTION TO THE TRANSIT AND OTHER PROBLEMS OF THE LAND-LOCKED LDCS IN THEIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, TRADE, FREIGHT RATES, ETC.; AND (IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 6) INVITED ALL MEMBER STATES AND COMPETENT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST THE LANDLOCKED LDCS IN FACILITATING THEIR RIGHT OF FREE ACCESS TO AND FROM THE SEA. CONTROVERSIAL PARAGRAPH 6, AROUSING THE SENSITIVITIES OF SOME CORRIDOR COUNTRIES,

WAS ADOPTED BY SEPARATE VOTE OF 42-3(PAKISTAN, KENYA, INDIA)-84(US, MOST OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES, AND A MIXTURE OF LDCS FROM ALL REGIONS). THE ENTIRE RESOLUTION WAS THEN ADOPTED BY VOTE OF 120(US)-0-7(BURMA, INDIA, KENYA, LEBANON, LIBYA, MALDIVES, PAKISTAN). THE U.S. MADE A LOW-KEY INTERPRETATIVE EXPLANATION OF VOTE WITH RESPECT TO SOME OF THE TERMINOLOGY OF THE RESOLUTION, HAVING SWITCHED FROM ABSTENTION IN COMMITTEE VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE TO AFFIRMATIVE IN PLENARY, AS DID SEVERAL OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

3. THE OTHER, PERTAINING TO THE UN SPECIAL FUND FOR LAND-LOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, APPROVED THE STATUTE OF THE SPECIAL FUND AND APPEALED TO MEMBER STATES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND IFIS TO SUPPORT IT. THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY 115-0-19(US, EC-9, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, FINLAND, ICELAND, JAPAN, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, SWE-DEN). THE US EXPLAINED ITS VOTE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: THE U.S. HAS ABSTAINED SINCE IT IS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE SPECIAL FUND: WE RECOGNIZE THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF THE LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF INCREASED EMPHASIS ON ASSISTANCE IN IMPROVING TRANSPORTA-TION FACILITIES BOTH IN LANDLOCKED AND CORRIDOR COUNTRIES (RATHER THAN COMPENSATION OR SUBSIDIES), BUT WE HAVE NOT SUPPORTED THE SPECIAL FUND SINCE IN OUR VIEW THESE OBJECTIVES CAN BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH EXISTING AGENCIES; HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO OBJECTION IF OTHERS WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT. (THE U.S. AND MOST OTHER WESTERN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAD ALSO ABSTAINED ON THE RESOLUTION UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE 30TH GA LAST YEAR CREATING THE SPECIAL FUND FOR LANDLOCKED LDCS.)

- 4. THE TEXTS OF THESE TWO RESOLUTIONS ARE BEING POUCHED.
- 5. WE HAVE ASKED USUN TO RESPOND TO YOUR QUERY ON LDC CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UN BUDGET.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, UNGA RESOLUTIONS

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Subject: AFGHANISTAN AT 31ST UNGA -- RESOLUTIONS ON LANDLOCKED LDCS

TAGS: EGEN, PORG, AF, UNGA

To: KABUL Type: TE

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